

May 15, 1991

LB 511

SPEAKER BAACK: The amendment is adopted. Next item on the bill.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Beutler would move to amend. AM1879, Senator.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I'd withdraw that temporarily, Mr. Clerk.

SPEAKER BAACK: It is withdrawn.

CLERK: Senator Wesely would move to amend, Mr. President. (Wesely amendment appears on page 2178 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. Speaker, members, this amendment I just had...I don't know if it's gotten around yet, but I had it distributed. It simply allows under the Conway amendment the ability for any Nebraska organization or resident to nominate a certain stream or portion of any river or stream for protection under this act. There wouldn't be the situation where one individual or organization would be able to initiate the review process, but what they could do is make a nomination and then if 15 members of the Legislature supported the nomination by signing a petition, again involving this Legislature in that process, then the commission would investigate and hold a hearing and make a decision on the matter. Then if the nomination is approved by the commission, it would require that to be reviewed and approved by the Legislature in order to be designated as a protected stream. What I'm trying to do is find a way for an individual or group to come forward and say we think this area ought to be protected, but then not to open it up so wide that we have to, for everybody out there have to do this review process, but have the Legislature do a check and balance in reviewing the proposals and then making a decision ultimately whether to proceed with it. So it would more actively involve the Legislature in some of the process and I think would help to provide the check and balance we need in carrying out the proposal. So with that, I'd ask for adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Discussion on the